



A Publication of the American Association of Christian Schools

The Washington Flyer
February 3, 2023

*“Education is the key to unlock the golden door of freedom.”
George Washington Carver*

President Biden Pushes Radical Liberal Social Agenda in State of the Union

President Biden delivered his [2nd State of the Union](#) address on Tuesday, presenting his view on issues facing the country, including the economy, national security, and the drug and border crisis, and also presenting his agenda and position on issues for the coming year. Although he strayed from his [transcript](#) at points and made several [fallacious claims](#), he repeatedly called for both parties to work together to “restore the soul of this country.” However, in spite of these calls for bipartisanship, he highlighted several radical social issues which face strong opposition among Republicans and conservatives in Congress. On the issue of education, President Biden pulled from the Obama-era talking points calling for free community college and universal preschool, stating that the path for a well-educated workforce includes “access to preschool for 3- and 4-year-olds.” He claimed that “studies show that children who go to preschool are nearly 50% more likely to finish high school and go on to earn a 2- or 4-year degree, no matter their background”; yet, [evidence from multiple studies](#) has [proved](#) that compulsory preschool could actually “do more harm than good” for young children. On the issue of abortion, he stated, “Congress must restore the right the Supreme Court took away last year and codify *Roe v. Wade* to protect every woman’s constitutional right to choose.” He referred to the [pro-life laws](#) being passed by many states as “extreme abortion bans” and vowed to veto any national ban on abortion. He also offered support for the transgender movement by calling on Congress to pass the [Equality Act](#), an extreme bill which would expand the Civil Rights Act to include sexual orientation and gender identity in the protected classes from discrimination, and which, in so doing, would decrease the religious freedom of those who hold a biblical view of sexuality. Responding to the State of the Union, Family Research Council president Tony Perkins [stated](#), “The President continues to talk unity, but his actions continue to divide the nation. I’m not sure how you unify a nation over abortion-till-birth policies and trampling religious freedom. That’s a polarizing agenda.”

Arkansas Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders [delivered](#) the Republican response to Biden’s speech and [pointed](#) to the extreme policies of the Biden administration as the reasons for the issues our country is facing, including the struggling economy, the drug crisis, and problems at the border. She further expounded on the culture war facing America, calling out the Biden administration’s focus on “woke fantasies” over the “hard reality that Americans face every day.” She pointed out that “Americans simply want to live their lives in freedom and peace, but we are under attack in a left-wing culture war we didn’t start and never wanted to fight.” She added, “Every day we are told that we must partake in their rituals, salute their flags, and worship their false idols . . . all while big government colludes with big tech to strip away the most American thing there is—your freedom of speech. That’s not normal. It’s crazy and it’s wrong.” She then proclaimed that a “new generation of Republican leaders is stepping up . . . to be changemakers for the American people,” noting that the “dividing line in America is no longer between right or left. The choice is between normal or crazy.” With a reference to her faith in God, she closed, “We know not what the future holds, but we know who holds the future in His hands. And with God as our witness, we will show the world that America is still the place where freedom reigns and liberty will never die.”

FBI Director Wray Subpoenaed for Targeting Parents at School Board Meetings

The House Judiciary Committee has [subpoenaed](#) FBI Director Christopher Wray and Attorney General Merrick Garland, demanding they turn over documents and communications regarding the memo sent by AG Garland on October 4, 2021, which instructed the FBI to work with local law enforcement and U.S. attorneys to determine which parents at school board meetings were threats. The [memo had been a response to a letter](#) sent by the National School Boards Association to the White House expressing concern about alleged disruptive behavior by parents at school board meetings who were speaking out against the implementation of critical race theory (CRT), gender ideology, and overreaching COVID-19 measures in schools. The Garland [memo read](#), “There has been a disturbing spike in harassment, intimidation, and threats of violence against school administrators, board members, teachers, and staff,” and then instructed the FBI to work with local law enforcement and U.S. attorneys to investigate which parents at school meetings were threats. The memo also gave the agency the authority to “prosecute them when appropriate.” Garland’s memo was sent just [five days](#) after the NSBA’s letter was received, causing many to question whether there was collaboration between the administration, the NSBA, and the Department of Justice to intimidate, harass, and silence parents. Education Secretary Miguel Cardona was also subpoenaed for any documents related to the memo. Director Wray has until 9:00 a.m. on March 1, 2023, to turn over the documents.

Minnesota Passes Extreme Abortion Law

On January 31, Minnesota Governor Tim Walz signed into law the [Protect Reproductive Options Act](#) (PRO-Act) which makes abortion a fundamental right for every person in Minnesota. Although abortion was already legal in the state, the new law ensures that abortion is now legal until birth and also removes barriers for minors to receive abortions or sterilization without parental consent or knowledge. The PRO-Act [states](#) that “every individual has a fundamental right to make autonomous decisions about the individual’s own reproductive health,” and it states that reproductive health care includes “contraception, sterilization, preconception care, maternity care, abortion care, family planning, and fertility services.” Minnesota is the first state to codify abortion via legislative action after the *Dobbs v. Jackson* ruling in the summer of 2022. The November elections brought a Democrat majority in both the state senate and house, allowing them to fast-track the abortion legislation, albeit with narrow margins of 69-65 in the house and 34-33 in the senate. Minnesota neighbors South Dakota, Wisconsin, and North Dakota all have abortion bans, and the Minnesota house is now [considering a bill](#) to expand their anti-life measures by protecting abortion providers from legal action if they perform abortions for citizens from other states where abortion is illegal. Cathy Blaeser, executive director of Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life, slammed the PRO-Act, [called](#) the new law “extreme, inhumane, and harmful to women and children,” and compared it to policies of North Korea and China.

In Case You Missed It:

[Weekly Market Update](#) provided by Jeff Beach of the [AACS Investment Team at Merrill Lynch](#)

[Practical Legal Help for Christian Schools: ADF Ministry Alliance](#)

[Promise to America’s Children](#)